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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 ROME 005324

SIPDIS

FROM U.S. MISSION IN ROME

STATE FOR AS/PRM DEWEY, A/S AFR KANSTEINER, U/S LARSON,
AFR/SA, PRM/P, EUR/WE AND IO/D
USAID FOR ADMINISTRATOR NATSIOS, AA/DCHA WINTER, AA/AFR,
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D/DCHA/FFP LANDIS, PPC/DP, PPC/DC
USDA/FAS FOR GSM KMILLER AND RTILLSWORTH
GENEVA FOR RMA AND NKYLOH/USAID
BRUSSELS FOR PLERNER
USUN FOR LSHESTACK
NSC FOR JDWOKEN
OMB FOR TSTOLL

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: WFP'S SURGING FOOD AID REQUIREMENTS FOR 2003 -
REPORT OUT ON WFP'S RESOURCES CONSULTATION OF OCTOBER 25

SUMMARY

1. WFP'S PROJECTED 2003 NEEDS (ALL PROJECTS AND OPERATIONS) ARE ESTIMATED AT 5.3 MILLION TONS (MTS). EMERGENCY OPERATIONS ARE FORECASTED TO REQUIRE 2.6 MILLION MTS, EXCLUDING NORTH KOREA, WESTERN SAHEL REGION AND COTE D'IVOIRE WHERE ASSESSMENTS ARE STILL IN PROGRESS. PROJECTED REQUIREMENTS FOR PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS (PRROS) WILL INCREASE SUBSTANTIALLY TO 1.9 MILLION MTS, UP FROM 1.2 MILLION TONS THIS YEAR. WITH THIS LARGE NUMBER OF HIGH PROFILE AND NEEDY OPERATIONS, 2003 IS EXPECTED TO PUT CONSIDERABLE STRAIN ON WFP'S ABILITY TO ADDRESS THE FOOD AID REQUIREMENTS OF LESS HIGH-PROFILE, YET NO LESS NEEDY PRROS. DEVELOPMENT PROJECT NEEDS ARE CALCULATED AT 846,580 MTS, RELATED TO 35 APPROVED COUNTRY PROGRAMS, AND STAND-ALONE
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DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN 22 COUNTRIES. AMBASSADOR HALL
AFFIRMED CONTINUING STRONG USG SUPPORT TO WFP'S
INTERVENTIONS. END SUMMARY.

WFP RESOURCES CONSULTATION - OCTOBER 25, 2002 - SNAPSHOT OF
2002 CONTRIBUTIONS

2. ON THE FINAL DAY OF THE THIRD REGULAR SESSION OF THE WFP EXECUTIVE BOARD (OCTOBER 25), EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JIM MORRIS PROVIDED A REVIEW FOR THE DONOR COMMUNITY OF 2002 CONTRIBUTIONS AND ANTICIPATED WFP FOOD AID NEEDS FOR 2003. IN 2002, DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGH OCTOBER 21 EQUALED USD 1.51 BILLION, TOWARDS WHICH THE U.S. HAS CONTRIBUTED USD 846.5 MILLION (56 PERCENT). THIS FUNDING, TOGETHER WITH CARRY-OVER PLEDGES AND REPROGRAMMING OF SAVINGS FROM PREVIOUS YEARS, HAS MOBILIZED ROUGHLY 3.5 MILLION METRIC TONS (MTS) OF FOOD.

3. IN 2002, WFP EMERGENCY FOOD AID REQUIREMENTS AMOUNT TO 2.8 MILLION MTS, WORTH SOME USD 1.4 BILLION. 36 PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY (PRRO) OPERATIONS WORLDWIDE REQUIRE AN ADDITIONAL 835,623 MTS, VALUED AT USD 493 MILLION. AND DEVELOPMENT, REHABILITATION AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PROGRAMS HAVE RECEIVED USD 186 MILLION IN FUNDING, PROVIDING 608,000 MTS, ABOUT 20 PERCENT SHORT OF THE ANTICIPATED DELIVERY LEVEL OF 748,000 MTS.

WFP'S 2003 REQUIREMENTS
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4. WFP'S PROJECTED 2003 NEEDS (ALL PROJECTS AND OPERATIONS) ARE ESTIMATED AT 5.3 MILLION TONS, EXCLUDING ANTICIPATED EMERGENCY REQUIREMENTS IN THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA AS WELL AS WFP EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CURRENTLY UNDER FORMULATION IN THE DROUGHT-AFFECTED WESTERN SAHEL REGION AND IN COTE D'IVOIRE WHERE ASSESSMENTS ARE STILL IN PROGRESS. GLOBAL PROJECTED REQUIREMENTS ARE SOME 1.4 MILLION TONS HIGHER THAN THOSE THAT WERE FORECASTED THIS TIME LAST YEAR. 2003 ESTIMATED WFP NEEDS INCLUDE 2.6 MILLION METRIC TONS (MTS) FOR EMERGENCY OPERATIONS, 1.9 MILLION MTS FOR PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS AND 847,000 MTS FOR DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS. APPROXIMATELY 75 PERCENT OF THE 2003 EMERGENCY FOOD REQUIREMENTS ARE ATTRIBUTED TO THE MASSIVE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN SOUTHERN

AFRICA AND THE WIDESPREAD DROUGHT IN ETHIOPIA AND ERITREA.

15. PROJECTED REQUIREMENTS FOR PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS (PRROS) WILL INCREASE SUBSTANTIALLY, UP FROM 1.2

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| | PRM-00 | SAS-00 | /003W | | | | |

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P 310727Z OCT 02
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6675
INFO EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY BEIJING
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY BERN
SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY
USDA FAS WASHDC 2383
USEU BRUSSELS 2905
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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MILLION TONS THIS YEAR. THIS IS DUE IN PART TO THE EXPANDING PRRO PORTFOLIO, NOW NUMBERED AT 36 OPERATIONS WORLD-WIDE, AND IS A RESULT OF DRAMATICALLY INCREASED RELIEF NEEDS IN SELECTED OPERATIONS SUCH AS ANGOLA, IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE 2002 PEACE ACCORD. SIMILARLY, INCREASED PRRO NEEDS ARE REPORTED IN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO AND SRI LANKA. IN UGANDA, THE ESCALATION IN THE CONFLICT IN THE NORTH HAS EXACERBATED THE VULNERABILITY OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS) AND REFUGEES. FUNDING FOR THE ALGERIA PRRO (WESTERN SAHARAN REFUGEES) IS BEING REPORTED SEPTEL.

16. WITH THIS LARGE NUMBER OF HIGH PROFILE AND NEEDY OPERATIONS, 2003 IS EXPECTED TO PUT CONSIDERABLE STRAIN ON WFP'S ABILITY TO ADDRESS THE FOOD AID REQUIREMENTS OF LESS HIGH-PROFILE, YET NO LESS NEEDY PRROS, SUCH AS: BANGLADESH, ETHIOPIA, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA (EXCLUDING KOSOVO),
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GUINEA BISSAU, IRAQ, IRAN, KENYA, MYANMAR, NEPAL, SOMALIA AND YEMEN. MOST OF THESE OPERATIONS ASSIST VULNERABLE REFUGEES AND IDPS WHO DEPEND ALMOST ENTIRELY ON WFP FOR THEIR SUSTENANCE.

AMBASSADOR HALL'S AFFIRMATION OF CONTINUING U.S. SUPPORT TO WFP

17. AMBASSADOR TONY HALL, IN RESPONDING FOR THE U.S. DELEGATION, AFFIRMED THAT WFP CONTINUES TO BE AN IMPORTANT PARTNER IN ENSURING THAT MILLIONS OF CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD HAVE A MEAL EVERY DAY. HE NOTED THAT PRESIDENT BUSH SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED WFP IN HIS OCTOBER 23 PROCLAMATION FOR UNITED NATIONS DAY, LAUDING WFP FOR "HELPING TO AVERT A SEVERE FAMINE THAT THREATENED AFGHANISTAN."

18. HALL CONFIRMED THAT USAID HAD AGREED TO PROVIDE USD 200

MILLION TO WFP FOR THE FIRST YEAR OF THE TWENTIETH BIENNium PLEDGE PERIOD (2003-2004). THIS REPRESENTS A 23 PERCENT INCREASE TO USAID'S ANNUAL PLEDGE AMOUNT, AND INCLUDES A DOUBLING OF USAID'S CASH CONTRIBUTION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS. HE REMINDED THAT THIS AMOUNT REPRESENTS A FLOOR FOR USAID SUPPORT, NOT A CEILING.

9. HALL ALSO HIGHLIGHTED USAID'S DECISION TO INITIALLY PROVIDE 100,000 METRIC TONS OF WHEAT - WITH A VALUE OF USD 40 MILLION DOLLARS - FOR THE LOOMING CRISIS IN ETHIOPIA, WHILE REMINDING THAT THE NEEDS OF THE ENTIRE HORN OF AFRICA REGION ARE LIKELY TO BE FAR GREATER. "YET EVEN WITH THESE
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COMMITMENTS, THE U.S. WOULD BE REMISS IN NOT POINTING OUT THAT WORLD MARKET PRICES FOR COMMODITIES THIS YEAR HAVE SKYROCKETED. THE PRICE FOR MAIZE AND RELATED PRODUCTS IS UP 65 PERCENT, WHEAT 60 PERCENT. DONATIONS ARE NOT EXPECTED TO KEEP PACE WITH THE PRICE INCREASES AND THE OVERALL AMOUNT OF ACTUAL FOOD PROVIDED FOR 2003 WILL CERTAINLY BE LESS THAN PREVIOUS YEARS. SURPLUSES AROUND THE WORLD HAVE DWINDLED. THE NUMBER OF HUNGRY PEOPLE HAS NOT."

OTHER DONORS

10. THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION INCREASED ITS SUPPORT TO WFP IN 2002 TO APPROXIMATELY USD 154 MILLION, A 50 PERCENT INCREASE COMPARED WITH 2001. CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM HAVE GONE UP FROM USD 27.6 MILLION TO USD 56.7 MILLION. GERMANY'S CONTRIBUTIONS ARE UP BY EIGHT PERCENT, AUSTRALIA BY 39 PERCENT, NORWAY BY 34 PERCENT AND BOTH SWEDEN AND IRELAND BY 26 PERCENT. FINALLY, SAUDI ARABIA HAS DOUBLED ITS CONTRIBUTION THIS YEAR TO USD 4.2 MILLION. YET DESPITE THESE

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ENCOURAGING SIGNS, AS OF OCTOBER 21 (COMPARED WITH MID-OCTOBER 2001), OVERALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE DOWN BY USD 64.1 MILLION. IT IS NOTED THAT HISTORICALLY STRONG SUPPORTERS CANADA AND FRANCE HAVE CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY LESS THIS YEAR.

COMMENT

11. WAR AND DROUGHT (PARTICULARLY IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA)
HAVE DRASTICALLY RATCHETED UP HUMANITARIAN FOOD AID NEEDS.
IN 2002, 32 COUNTRIES FACED EXCEPTIONAL FOOD EMERGENCIES,
WITH AN ESTIMATED 67 MILLION PEOPLE REQUIRING EMERGENCY FOOD
AID AS A RESULT. UNFORTUNATELY, AS PER WFP'S ESTIMATES, 2003
PORTENDS MORE OF THE SAME. HALL

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